

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1752 – SB 1769

January 30, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Expands the locations that emergency services may be performed for which a health benefit plan must provide coverage to include a satellite emergency department facility, a freestanding emergency room, an urgent care center, or a physician's office.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- State employees are already covered at these facilities; BlueCross BlueShield and Cigna currently cover various urgent care centers, retail health clinics, and walk-in doctor offices as alternatives to an emergency room.
- According to the Division of TennCare, there are federal regulations that limit the reimbursement by Medicaid agencies to Free Standing Emergency Departments (FSEDs). However, the state of Tennessee requires that FSEDs be affiliated with a hospital in order to obtain licensure, which is the same requirement the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has for reimbursement to FSEDs.
- The new emergency service locations in the proposed legislation are already covered in all existing TennCare programs. Therefore, the proposed legislation would have no fiscal impact to TennCare.

IMPACT TO COMMERCE:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumption:

- Expanding where emergency services could be provided is not expected to result in a substantial increase in the number of emergency services provided; therefore, the proposed legislation will not significantly impact commerce or jobs in Tennessee.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/cd